

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**  
Yoshiharu HAYASHI et al. :  
Serial No. NEW :  
Filed February 23, 2004 : Attorney Docket No. 2004\_0298

METHOD FOR PROPHYLAXIS AND  
TREATMENT OF DIABETIC  
COMPLICATIONS WITH 4[ $\alpha$ -  
HYDROXY-2-METHYL-5-  
(1-IMIDAZOLYL)BENZYL]-3,5-  
DIMETHYLBENZOIC ACID AND  
DERIVATIVES  
(Rule 1.53(b) Continuation  
of Serial No. 10/354,136,  
Filed January 30, 2003)

CLAIM OF PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC 119

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

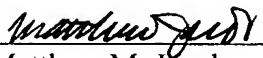
Sir:

Applicants in the above-entitled application hereby claim the date of priority under the International Convention of Japanese Patent Application No. 340161/1995, filed December 27, 1995, as acknowledged in the Declaration of this application.

A certified copy of said Japanese Patent Application is of record in parent application Serial No. 10/354,136, filed January 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshiharu HAYASHI et al.

By   
Matthew M. Jacob  
Registration No. 25,154  
Attorney for Applicants

MJ/da  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
February 24, 2004